

**From:** Tim Born  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 12/7/01 11:02am  
**Subject:** Red Hat's counter proposal

I read the news of Red Hat's counter proposal to the Microsoft settlement, in which they offered RedHat Linux for the schools in place of Microsoft windows. I'm very much in favor of this proposal.

My daughters are elementary and junior high age, and when we installed Red Hat Linux and Sun's (free) StarOffice on the PC at home, they had NO difficulty using it. It looks close enough to what they see on other machines, it runs all the software they need for internet, chat (one of their favorites), word processing, etc. If there are any fears of ease of use or interoperability, I think they can easily be addressed by a simple experiment: try it. Having tried it, our household has made the switch and is quite happy, both for the functionality and also for the substantial amount of money I no longer have to pay for Windows & MS Office. And the stability is SIGNIFICANTLY better. Seriously.

If the local schools were to adopt Linux, I would be happy to help introduce them to it.

Take Microsoft's offer and leverage to get the maximum amount of hardware you can, to generate the maximum good. Let RedHat deliver the OS & use Sun's StarOffice.

-tim

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